

GLOSSARY

1Q20. The lowest one day flow recorded over a 20-year interval.

30Q2. The lowest mean flow recorded for 30 consecutive days over a 2-year recurrence interval.

7Q10. The lowest mean flow recorded for 7 consecutive days over a 10-year recurrence interval.

303(d). The section of the federal Clean Water Act that requires each state to prepare a list of streams that are water quality limited or are expected to exceed water quality standards in the next two years and need additional pollution controls. Water quality limited streams are those that have one or more properties that violate water quality standards.

305(b). The section of the Federal Clean Water Act that requires each state to assess water quality and report the results to EPA and the public.

AFO. Animal Feeding Operation.

Ambient Sites. Those sites established for long term instream monitoring of water quality.

ARAP. Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit.

Assessment. The result of an analysis of how well streams meet the water quality criteria assigned to them.

Bankfull Discharge. The momentary maximum peak flow before a stream overflows its banks onto a floodplain.

Basin. An area that drains several smaller watersheds to a common point. Most watersheds in Tennessee are part of the Cumberland, Mississippi, or Tennessee Basin (The Conasauga River and Barren River Watersheds are the exceptions).

Benthic. Bottom dwelling.

Biorecon. A qualitative multihabitat assessment of benthic macroinvertebrates that allows rapid screening of a large number of sites. A Biorecon is one tool used to recognize stream impairment as judged by species richness measures, emphasizing the presence or absence of indicator organisms without regard to relative abundance.

BMP. An engineered structure or management activity, or combination of these, that eliminates or reduces an adverse environmental effect of a pollutant.

BOD. Biochemical Oxygen Demand. A measure of the amount of oxygen consumed in the biological processes that break down organic and inorganic matter.

CAFO. Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation.

Designated Uses. The part of Water Quality Standards that describes the uses of surface waters assigned by the Water Quality Control Board. All streams in Tennessee are designated for Recreation, Fish and Aquatic Life, Irrigation, and Livestock Watering and Wildlife. Additional designated uses for some, but not all, waters are Drinking Water Supply, Industrial Water Supply, and Navigation.

DMR. Discharge Monitoring Report. A report that must be submitted periodically to the Division of Water Pollution Control by NPDES permittees.

DO. Dissolved oxygen.

EPA. Environmental Protection Agency. The EPA Region 4 web site is <http://www.epa.gov/region4/>

Field Parameter. Determinations of water quality measurements and values made in the field using a kit or probe. Common field parameters include pH, DO, temperature, conductivity, and flow.

Fluvial Geomorphology. The physical characteristics of moving water and adjoining landforms, and the processes by which each affects the other.

HUC-8. The 8-digit Hydrologic Unit Code corresponding to one of 54 watersheds in Tennessee.

HUC-10. The 10-digit NRCS Hydrologic Unit Code. HUC-10 corresponds to a smaller land area than HUC-8.

HUC-12. The 12-digit NRCS Hydrologic Unit Code. HUC-12 corresponds to a smaller land area than HUC-10.

MRLC. Multi-Resolution Land Classification.

MS4. Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System.

Nonpoint Source (NPS). Sources of water pollution without a single point of origin. Nonpoint sources of pollution are generally associated with surface runoff, which may carry sediment, chemicals, nutrients, pathogens, and toxic materials into receiving waterbodies. Section 319 of the Clean Water Act of 1987 requires all states to assess the impact of nonpoint source pollution on the waters of the state and to develop a program to abate this impact.

NPDES. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System. Section 402 of the Clean Water Act of 1987 requires dischargers to waters of the U.S. to obtain NPDES permits.

NRCS. Natural Resources Conservation Service. NRCS is part of the federal Department of Agriculture. The NRCS home page is <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov>

Point Source. Any discernable, confined, and discrete conveyance, including but not limited to any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation, or vessel or other floating craft, from which pollutants are or may be discharged. This term does not include agricultural stormwater discharges and return flows from irrigated agriculture (Clean Water Act Section 502(14)).

Q Design. The average daily flow that a treatment plant or other facility is designed to accommodate.

Reference Stream (Reference Site). A stream (site) judged to be least impacted. Data from reference streams are used for comparisons with similar streams.

Stakeholder. Any person or organization affected by the water quality or by any watershed management activity within a watershed.

STATSGO. State Soil Geographic Database. STATSGO is compiled and maintained by the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

STORET. The EPA repository for water quality data that is used by state environmental agencies, EPA and other federal agencies, universities, and private citizens. STORET (Storage and Retrieval of National Water Quality Data System) data can be accessed at <http://www.epa.gov/storet/>

TDA. Tennessee Department of Agriculture. The TDA web address is <http://www.state.tn.us/agriculture>

TDEC. Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation. The TDEC web address is <http://www.tdec.net>

TMDL. Total Maximum Daily Load. A TMDL is a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards, and an allocation of the amount to the pollutant's sources. A TMDL is the sum of the allowable loads of a single pollutant from all contributing point and nonpoint sources. The calculation includes a margin of safety to ensure that the waterbody can be used for the purposes the State has designated. The calculation must also account for seasonal variation in water quality. A TMDL is required for each pollutant in an impaired stream as described in Section 303 of the Federal Clean Water Act of 1987. Updates and information on Tennessee's TMDLs can be found at <http://www.state.tn.us/environment/wpc/tmdl/>

TMSP. Tennessee Multi-Sector Permit.

USGS. United States Geological Survey. USGS is part of the federal Department of the Interior. The USGS home page is <http://www.usgs.gov>.

Water Quality Standards. A triad of designated uses, water quality criteria, and antidegradation statement. Water Quality Standards are established by Tennessee and approved by EPA.

Watershed. A geographic area which drains to a common outlet, such as a point on a larger stream, lake, underlying aquifer, estuary, wetland, or ocean.

WET. Whole Effluent Toxicity.